

REMARKS

This proposed amendment is supplemental to the amendment filed on February 13, 1995.

The examiner contacted applicant's attorney on April 28, 1995 with a request to reduce the number of claims presented in the previously-filed amendment (citing MPEP 706.03(1) and 37 CFR 1.75(b) for authority). The examiner suggested that making an election of the following distinct (restrictable) inventions (and identifying corresponding figures) would effect this purpose:

Group 1 - method of mounting free-standing stems, as illustrated (for example) in Figures 7a-16, 18-21 and as claimed, for example, in claim 1.

Group 2 - method of making loops, as illustrated (for example) in Figures 1B 2-5, 17 and as claimed, for example, in claim 2.

Group 3 - method of mounting a protuberant contact using a sacrificial member, as set forth in previously-allowed claims 15-16, and their "progeny", as illustrated (for example) in Figures 6a - 6c.

A followup telephonic interview was conducted on May 1, 1995, at which time the restriction requirement was made formal (actual), and the multiplicity (of claims) rejection was reiterated.

Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, Group 3, which comprises the following claims, for further prosecution in this case:

15, 16, 17, 18, 19,	20, 21, 22, 23, 24,
25, 26, 27, 28, 29,	36, 37, 50, 51, 52,
53, 58, 79, 80, 93,	105, 110, 115, 119, 125,
130, 139, 143, 144, 145,	146, 152, 158

Vis-a-vis these claims, as noted in the previously-filed amendment (2/13/95):

- Claim 15 is in independent form, and was previously allowed.
- Claims 25 and 27 were previously objected to and rewritten (in response to the Office action) to be in independent form, including all of the limitations of claim 15 and any previously intervening claims.
- Previously (2/13/95) submitted independent claims 50-53 are similar to allowed claim 15 and are directed to variations on the "theme" of claim 15 which involves using a sacrificial member.

Additionally, a number of the remaining claims (159-277) are amended herewith, to depend from allowable claim 15, as discussed during the examiner interview. Effort has been made to ensure that these claims, previously "belonging" to another set of claims, meet the constraints of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The examiner requested, by phone, that the claim count be reduced to 50-60, but mentioned that slightly exceeding this amount may be in order. Upon entering this amendment, the claim count would total approximately 69.

A provisional election having been made by the applicant, in reliance on the examiner's oral provisional restriction requirement, it is specifically requested that the aforementioned provisional restriction requirement be formalized and made of record (with more specificity than set forth above, if deemed necessary by the examiner). Upon entering this provisional amendment, the claims cancelled herewith should be listed as "withdrawn from consideration".

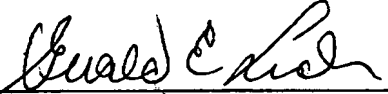
CONCLUSION

The claims which have been elected herewith should be allowed.

No new matter is entered by this Amendment.

No fee is required.

For the Applicant,

  
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5/1/95  
date

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